

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are pending in the application. Claims 13-18 are withdrawn from consideration pursuant to the restriction requirement.

Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US 2003/0166627 A1 ("the Harris et al. reference"). Specifically, the Office Action asserts that the present claims are anticipated by the disclosure of pages 2-4, and Scheme 1, of the Harris et al. reference.

Applicants submit herewith the Declaration of Sreenivasulu Megati and Galina Vid, in which they affirm that they, along with the other inventors of the present application, are the inventors of the subject matter referred to in the Office Action. Accordingly, it is believed that the Harris et al. reference is not available as prior art under 35 U.S.C. §102(e). Applicants therefore respectfully request that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) be withdrawn, and claims 1-12 be allowed.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that claims 1-12 are in condition for allowance, and an early notice of the same is earnestly solicited. The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at (215) 665-4737 if there are any questions regarding this paper.

Respectfully submitted,

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